

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 07099 140655Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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R 131629Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 425

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7099

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, SP

SUBJ: FRANCO'S HEALTH

DURING MY FAREWELL CALL ON GENERAL FRANCO OF SOME TWENTY MINUTES TODAY I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE HIS MENTAL AND PHYSICAL STATE. HE WAS MENTALLY ALERT. HE PICKED UP POINTS I MADE QUICKLY AND RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY AND INCISIVELY. HIS VOICE WAS, IN FACT, CLEARER THAN ON THE OCCASIONS OF MY PREVIOUS VISITS. HIS HANDS TREMBLED NOTICEABLY, BUT HIS HAND-SHAKE WAS FIRM, AND I DID NOT NOTE ANY LOSS OF WEIGHT OR OTHER GENERAL DETERIORATION IN HIS PHYSICAL APPEARANCE SINCE I LAST SAW HIM BEFORE HIS ILLNESS. HIS DESK WAS PILED HIGH WITH PAPERS, AS IS CUSTOMARY, AND THERE WERE MANY OTHER VISITORS WAITING TO SEE HIM. IN SUM, I HAD THE IMPRESSION OF A MAN WHOSE HEALTH WAS SURPRISINGLY GOOD CONSIDERING WHAT HE HAS GONE THROUGH, AND WHO IS CURRENTLY QUITE ACTIVE.
RIVERO

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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TAGS: PGOV, SP, (FRANCO)
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